ABSTRACT

A 2.4 Å crystal structure of a protein construct containing the catalytic kinase domain of vascular endothelial growth factor receptor 2 (VEGFR2/KDR), a key enzyme in angiogenesis, has been determined in an unliganded, phosphorylated state. This protein construct, contains a modified catalytic linker and has comparable *in vitro* kinase activity to constructs containing the entire KID. The resulting construct retains comparable *in vitro* kinase activity to that of the wild-type KID, and more importantly, allows complete crystallization of the protein such that it may be characterized by X-ray crystallography. The present invention further discloses the use of x-ray crystallographic data for identification and construction of possible therapeutic compounds in the treatment of various disease conditions.